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APPLICATION NO.	FII	LING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/750,474	1	2/28/2000	William J. Harrison	ACS-55966 (26991)	6584	
24201	7590	01/30/2002				
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LOS ANGEL		90045	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
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				DATE MAILED: 01/30/2002	DATE MAILED: 01/30/2002	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No.   Applicating No.   Application (9, 69750,474   HARRISON, WILLIAM J.	<u>.</u>			[ A 1				
Examiner   Vy Q. Bul   3731			Application No.					
Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  If the period for only specified above is less than they (50) days, a reply white the addition, however, may a reply be timely filled after 30 (s) (MONTHS from the maining date of this communication).  If the period for only specified above is less than they (50) days, a reply white the addition of they (50) again to enter 30 (see 1) and the 30 (s) (MONTHS from the maining date of this communication).  If the period for only specified above is less than they (50) days, a reply white the side of critic growth and they are application to become ABANCARED (50 U.S. 2, 13).  Any yearly received by the Office later than there months when the mailing date of this communication.  Failure for growthish the stor developed by a date, cause the application to become ABANCARED (50 U.S. 2, 13).  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) © Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.  4) Of the above claim (s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8) Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner.  10			09/750,474					
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  ■ Extractions of throw rays be available and/or the provisions of 3° GR 1.136(a). In no events, however, may a reply be timply filed  ■ the partie of reply specified above, the maximum statistory parties will be additionable to the provisions of 3° GR 1.136(a).  ■ the partie of reply specified above, the maximum statistory parties will expire sold w		Ti stau NO DATE stable communication com						
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Estatosizes of time may be available under the provisions of 3 CFR 1.13(6). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed of effect (in MONTHS) from the mailing date of this communication.  If the period or may be available under the provisions of 3 CFR 1.13(6). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed offer SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of the communication.  If the period or may be available under the provision of t	•••							
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Art Unit: 3731

### **DETAILED ACTION**

# **DRAWINGS FOR REFERENCE**

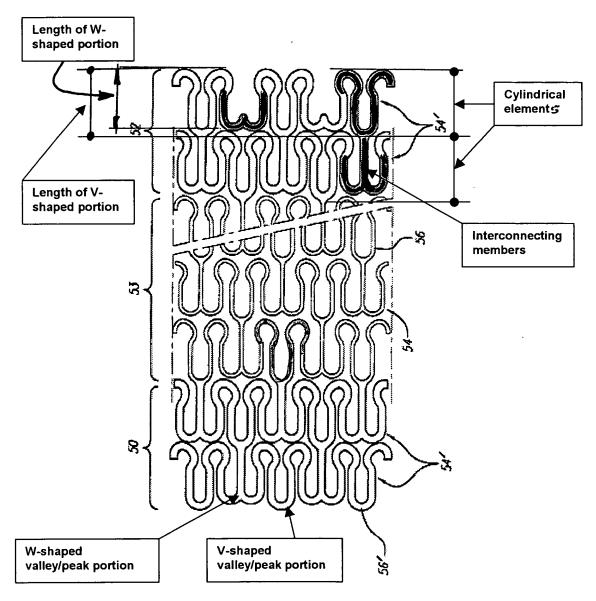


FIG. 7 (6,273,910)

Art Unit: 3731

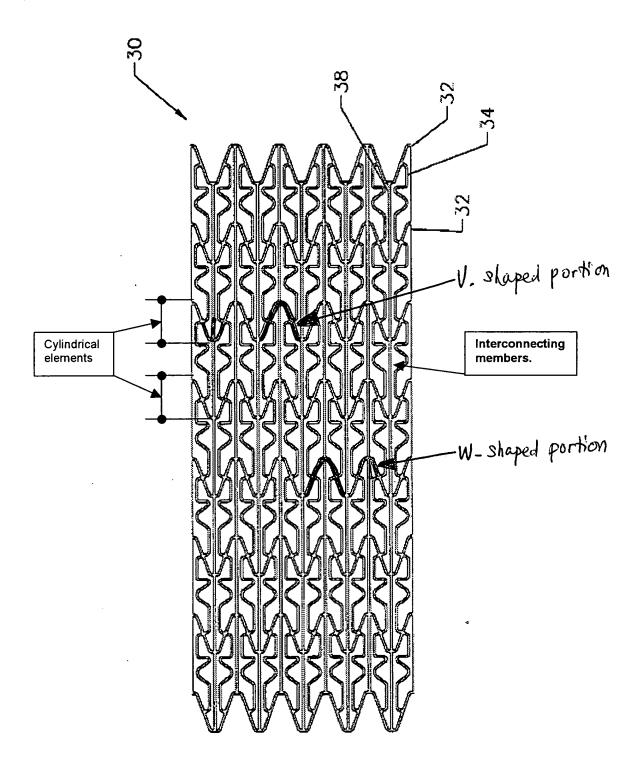


FIG. 4 (6,066,169)

Art Unit: 3731

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-7, 11, 17-19, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by LIMON (6,273,910).

LIMON (Figs. 1-7, especially Fig. 7 as shown on page 2, this office action) discloses a stent 54 (expanded by balloon, Fig. 2) having cylindrical elements, interconnecting members, W-shaped valley/peak portions, V-shaped valley/peak portions. W-shaped portions are shorter in longitudinal length than V-shaped portions. LIMON (Fig. 4) also discloses at least four V-shaped peaks/valley portions, W-shaped peaks/valley portions.

3. Claims 1, 8-10, 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by McGUINNESS (6,066,169).

McGUINNESS (Fig. 1-5, especially Fig. 4) discloses a stent having cylindrical elements, interconnecting members, W-shaped valley/peak portions, V-shaped

Application/Control Number: 09/750,474 Page 5

Art Unit: 3731

valley/peak portions. McGUINNESS (Fig. 4) shows each cylindrical element has at least two adjacent peak portions (one is V-shaped portion and one is W-shaped portion) which have differing longitudinal length and at least two adjacent valley portions (one is V-shaped portion and one is W-shaped portion) which have differing longitudinal length. Notice that V-shaped portions and W-shaped portions are highlighted as shown on page 3, this office action for correctly identifying the different elements as recited in the claims.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claims 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SIMON (6,273,910).

As to claim 20, SIMON discloses substantially all structural limitations as recited in the claim, except for the stent having eight peak portions and eight valley portions. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to increase the number of peak and valley portions to eight as claimed either change the flexibility of the stent or to increase its expanded diameter.

As to claim 22, SIMON discloses substantially all structural limitations as recited in the claim, except for the stent is self-expanded. It is well-known to make self-expandable stent from a shape-memory alloy, such as Nitinol. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make SIMON stent of Nitinol, for example, to make SIMON stent a self-expandable stent as claimed.

Art Unit: 3731

#### Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: DANG (5,935,162) discloses a stent having V-shaped and W-shaped portions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vy Q. Bui whose telephone number is 703-306-3420. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Milano can be reached on 703-308-2496. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-2708 for regular communications and 703-308-2708 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

**VQB** 

January 28, 2002.

KEVINT.TRUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Page 6